

Arthur Peronneau Hayne to Andrew Jackson, September 20, 1828, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

COLONEL ARTHUR P. HAYNE TO JACKSON.

Fort Moultrie, Sullivan's Island, September 20, 1828.

. . . . There is unfortunately a good deal of excitement in our State, and at the South generally, on the subject of the late Tariff. It is my most earnest wish, that for the present, you would neither write or express any positive opinion upon this subject, for any opinion or expression, much less letter of yours would be seized upon to produce a schism among your friends. So soon as the proper period arrives, so soon as the true sentiments of Carolina are known, on this subject, I will place in your possession, all the *Data* , necessary to enable you, to understand every thing; and then, ere long, I trust, you will in your *Official Capacity* , be called upon to place your opinions and views, before the people of our beloved and common Country. In the mean time, I can only say you stand, and maintain yourself among us like the “ *Rock of Ages* ”. *South-Carolina, one and all is for Jackson and the Union*. So anxious do I feel on the subject of the Tariff, that if my family were in Charleston, (where the *Strangers Fever* at *present is*. and on account of our *Daughter* , who is perfect *Stranger* , we have been induced to repair to this place, were it not for this circumstance,) I should be tempted to ride to see you at the Hermitage, for a few days; giving myself time enough to be present at Columbia our seat of Government, during the meeting of our Legislature, which will take place about the 20th of Novr. The great Question, with us, *Is, What is to be done? and I would fairly, directly, and Confidentially put that Question to you*. Sound judgment, and great delicacy would be required, in the management of such an Affair. The object, of such a scheme, wd. be public good. I would present myself at Columbia early in the Session—it would be

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known, that I was just from under the Roof of Genl. Jackson, *and without even mentioning his name, your opinions and views through me, wd. be known, and would necessarily produce a powerful effect.* Genl. Pinckney, who is my next Door neighbour thinks it wd. have a good effect, could this plan be executed. The Genl. takes a deep interest in your election. . . .